



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Council Committee Approves Plan to Develop Transportation Policy

Mallory and Bortz pushing development of integrated transportation policy

Cincinnati – City Council’s Economic Development Committee considered two pieces of legislation this afternoon dealing with transportation policy backed by Mayor Mark Mallory. The committee unanimously approved a motion initiated by Mayor Mallory and sponsored by Councilmembers Bortz and Berding to hire an urban design team to develop an integrated transportation policy for the city. The proposal will be considered by the full Council on Wednesday. The committee also heard testimony on a resolution to oppose proposals to redevelop the Brent Spence Bridge that could hurt the city.

“The reconstruction of the I-75 corridor is a once in a lifetime opportunity to reshape and improve the major transportation artery in our region,” Mayor Mallory said. “The federal and state governments are going to invest hundred of millions of dollars in our communities and we need to make sure that we leverage that investment to protect and develop the neighborhoods along I-75.”

The motion would contract with a design team to develop a comprehensive transportation policy and plan for the I-75 corridor project. The design team will develop a plan that will use the restructuring of I-75 as a catalyst to revitalize the neighborhoods along I-75 by improving neighboring infrastructure and encouraging new development.

“This is a unique opportunity to create a lasting positive economic impact on the city of Cincinnati and tie historic neighborhoods back into the fabric of our community,” Councilmember Bortz said.

The committee also heard testimony on a resolution sponsored by Mayor Mallory to oppose two of the proposed plans for the replacement/rehabilitation of the Brent Spence Bridge. Upon the advice of the administration, an agreement was reached to hold the resolution so that the urban design team that is being contracted can help develop an analysis of the proposals. Mayor Mallory opposes the proposed plans that would have a significant negative economic impact including the loss of jobs, business opportunities, and earnings and property taxes on the Museum Center and other Cincinnati businesses, particularly in Queensgate. Mayor Mallory has been working with the Mayor of Covington to ensure that the final plan will be mutually beneficial for both sides of the river.

Also at the meeting, the Ohio Department of Transportation made a presentation about the on-going I-75 Corridor Study. The study is part of a multi-billion dollar infrastructure investment that would add an entire lane to I-75 through all of Hamilton County. The study has three project components: Thru the Valley, the Mill Creek Expressway, and the Brent Spence Bridge. The

goals of the I-75 renovation will be to improve safety, ease congestion, increase regional mobility, and develop solutions compatible with local land use plans.

Mayor Mallory has been meeting with Mayors of the cities and villages that will be affected by the I-75 project to discuss the alternative plans and work toward a solution that will be beneficial for the entire region.

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